



House Resolution 15
WEP-GPO Repeal

Sponsor: Bassi, Suzanne

Summary: The resolution calls for Congress to pass legislation that would repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO).

Proposed: The WEP and the GPO reduces the Social Security benefits of teachers who have earned a public pension outside of Social Security. Members of TRS do not participate in Social Security.

The WEP reduces the Social Security benefit of public employees who have earned a benefit outside of Social Security. An individual's "average indexed monthly earnings" (AIME) is used to calculate a Social Security benefit. Generally, the AIME is based on the amount of wages on which you paid Social Security taxes are paid during 35 years of employment.

The AIME is divided into three increments, and a portion of each increment is paid as a benefit. A Social Security benefit payment includes 90 percent of the first \$606 of AIME, plus 32 percent of the next \$3,047 of AIME, and the remainder is multiplied by 15 percent. The WEP provides that, a benefit is also received from employment not covered by Social Security, the first increment is changed from 90 percent to 40 percent if you had 20 years or less of substantial earnings under Social Security were earned.

The GPO reduces Social Security benefits by \$2 for every \$3 received in that individual's pension benefits from non-covered employment. The Social Security benefit is based upon their spouse's employment (one-half of their Social Security benefits if living or the full amount of their deceased spouse's Social Security benefits).